



Ward Notification

Tucson Fire Department

Fire Chief Patrick Kelly



Contact: Captain Trish Tracy
(520) 410-1901 Pager

Date: May 7, 2009

Ward 3 – Apartment Fire – 1600 Block of East Prince Road

May 7, 2009

Dispatch Time – 0205

On-Scene Time – 0209

Under Control - 0220

One person was sleeping in this apartment when the smoke detector sounded, waking them up. They evacuated immediately and called 9-1-1 reporting a fire in the kitchen. Firefighters arrived on scene to find smoke coming from a second floor apartment and nobody inside. Eleven minutes later the fire was extinguished. The adjacent apartments were evacuated for approximately one hour, and no injuries occurred. One person was displaced as a result of the fire. They will be staying elsewhere until repairs can be made.

Red Cross was not needed.

Cause – “Accidental” - Electrical

Origin – Kitchen near multi-plug adapter and electric water cooler

Damage Estimate - \$20,000

Safety Message: Having a working smoke detector and an escape plan could save your life! There were several working smoke detectors in this apartment. The smoke detectors sounded, alerted the occupant, and a safe escape was made. The fire was contained to the kitchen area and did not spread to adjacent apartments. The combination of the working smoke detectors, this person's quick call to 9-1-1 and not going back inside, and the 4 minute response of firefighters resulted in life safety and minimal damage to property.

Safety Message: Extension cords should not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using extension cords and multi-plug adapters. Larger appliances, such as portable space heaters, portable air-conditioning units, water coolers, etc., should be plugged directly into a wall outlet as they may not be able to handle the load. Overloaded extension cords and multi-plug adapter fires do occur and we all need to be aware of this.